QUARTERLY ISSUES

AND

PROGRAMS REPORT

WNEM TV5 BAY CITY/FLINT/MIDLAND AND SAGINAW

JANUARY 1 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2005

PROBLEMS AND NEEDS

OVERVIEW

Based on WNEM TV5's ascertainment of community leaders and from data gathered from community organizations, the ten highest ranking Problems and needs of the Bay City/Flint/Midland and Saginaw markets are:

- 1. Drugs and Alcohol
- 2. School Budget Cuts
- 3. Low Economic Growth in the Community
- 4. Unemployment
- 5. Teen Options (to keep them out of trouble)
- 6. Poor Road Conditions, No Sidewalks, Lack of Lighting
- 7. Loss of community; Lack of Volunteerism
- 8. Tuition Costs (College and Vocational)
- 9. Health Insurance Costs
- 10. Crime

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT

OVERVIEW

The following is the quarterly "Issues and Programs" Report placed in the public file of WNEM TV5 by April 11, 2005. The report covers the period from January 1, 2005 through March 31, 2005. The report is based on ten significant problems and needs determined by WNEM's community ascertainments. Below, each problem/need is a brief description of some news segments broadcast during the quarter designed to call attention to, or address the problem or need.

WNEM TV5 BAY CITY/FLINT/MIDLAND AND SAGINAW

January 1 through March 31, 2005

ISSUE/TITLE/SOURCE	PROGRAM/TYPE	DATE/DU	DATE/DURATION	
1. Drugs and Alcohol				
6P LOC/NEWS 1/8/05 :23 The Tri-Cities' Drug Task Force, Bayonet, busts two alleged drug houses in Saginaw. Detectives took drugs, money, guns and a car into evidence. One person was taken into custody; more arrests are expected.				
5:30P STATE/NEWS 1/20/05 :28 Police are calling their statewide crackdown on drunk drivers over the holidays a major success. More than 500 separate law enforcement agencies in 22 counties participated in the "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose" program from December 20 to January 2. Police pulled over more than 35,000 vehicles during that period.				
NOON LOC/NEWS 2/16/05:25 Jury selection was adjourned after prosecutors told the judge they have new evidence linking Donna Yost t the death of 7-year-old Monique. Yost is accused of giving her daughter an overdose of prescription drugs.				
WAKEUP LOC/NEWS 2/25/05 :35 Authorities say the Chinese restaurant, Sing Bo, in Flint Township, was selling drugs during normal business hours. Police found 15 assault weapons, \$28,000 worth of cocaine and over \$13,000 in cash when they raided the restaurant.				
6P The OHL season has been disappeliminated from the playoffs last in possession of alcohol later that	Sunday. That night six Spin	rit players were ca	ught	

Suspension of the players was announced earlier today.

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5P LOC/NEWS 3/23/05 1:00

Michigan State Police arrested Swan Valley's Special Education Teacher, Louis Phelan, on four drug charges, including maintaining a drug house. TV5 could not reach Phelan for comment, but the superintendent insists the incident happened off campus and away from the high school students.

WAKEUP LOC/NEWS 3/27/05 :25

The victim of a deadly car crash on Friday night was Michigan State Trooper Todd Cardoza. He was killed after he lost control of his vehicle and drove it into a tree on Peet Road in Saginaw County. Investigators say Cardoza was off duty at the time and they say alcohol was a factor in the crash.

2. School Budget Cuts

530P LOC/NEWS 1/3/05 1:17

Over the past few years state funding to Mid-Michigan school districts has dropped off. These cuts, combined with dwindling enrollment, make for a budget nightmare. In Saginaw, the school district is lowering the heat and turning all of its lights off in an attempt to save money. The Bay City district has closed schools for three weeks in an attempt to cut down on costs. It's expected that things will only get worse.

6P LOC/NEWS 1/18/05 :45

The Essexville-Hampton school district is facing a million dollar budget deficit. As a result, as many as five teachers may have to be laid off. Lay offs would be determined by seniority.

6P LOC/NEWS 2/13/05 1:05

Nearly \$1 million will have to be cut from the budget of the Essexville-Hampton School District. As many as six teachers could lose their jobs. A meeting to make these decisions is being held tomorrow at Garber High school.

530P LOC/NEWS 2/16/05 1:33

In Saginaw, \$1.2 million has been cut from school budgets. In Bay City, \$3.5 million have to be cut, including closing an elementary school and cutting class hours. In Bridgeport the community center and education services center may close. In Essexville-Hampton, the Board cut \$1.2 million this week, eliminating 11 jobs.

WAKEUP LOC/NEWS 2/19/05 :26

The Flint School District proposed closing up to 6 schools and laying off 141 employees, including 77 teachers. Another workshop session is held tonight.

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11P LOC/NEWS 3/2/05 1:17

Tonight Flint's Finance Committee of the Whole worked on budget concerns. Proposed cuts were the closing of two elementary schools, eliminating up to 82 teaching jobs, transferring some bus responsibilities to the Genesee Intermediate School District and Severing ties with the city's educational program which promotes increased academic achievement.

11P LOC/NEWS 3/14/05 1:08

The Bay City School Board met tonight to discuss how to cut \$3 ½ million from the budget. It is cutting purchases, eliminating high school counselors, trimming athletics, selling off unused buildings and possibly closing one elementary school.

530P LOC/NEWS 3/22/05 1:02

Bangor Township Schools lost four elementary class aides to budget cuts. There are concerns that if there is no additional help from Lansing, Bangor schools may have to shut down.

11P LOC/NEWS 3/28/05 :25

The Pinconning School District has to make \$1 million in budget cuts. The jobs of the high school assistant principal, the middle school principal, the athletic director and a state and federal grants director position are being considered for elimination. Other cuts are still expected before the April 25th budget deadline arrives.

3. Low Economic Growth in the Community

5P LOC/NEWS 1/18/05 1:15

The National Association of Home Builders considers the Saginaw, Bay City, Midland region as the second cheapest place in the country to own a house. The Saginaw Board of Realtors says the affordability factor is positive news.

6P LOC/NEWS 1/29/05 :21

United Auto Workers leaders fear some jobs are at risk at Delphi, Plant Number 1. Local UAW President Al Coven says the plant could lose 190 jobs by summer of 2006 if it's not competitive in cost and quality.

6P LOC/NEWS 2/23/05 :23

Governor Jennifer Granholm has scheduled a visit to Gen-Tech in Flint and will speak at the Saginaw Future's Annual Meeting tomorrow.

11P LOC/NEWS 2/24/05 :40

The Flint Mayor says his goals will be to continue targeting crime, blight, and improving Flint's economy during his State of the City address.

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530P

LOC/NEWS

3/30/05

:38

Governor Granholm says she'll create 40,000 new jobs over the next three years. Republicans say a lot of the jobs are only temporary. They include projects aimed at cleaning up Detroit, in time for the Super Bowl next February.

5P

LOC/NEWS

3/31/05

:32

The new numbers show Michigan's jobless rate fell in January, which is the first back-to-back drop since April.

4. Unemployment

6P

LOC/NEWS

1/20/05

:25

The State says the unemployment situation is improving, dropping from 7.3 percent to 6.8 percent in December. It's the first year the annual rate has fallen since 2000. Forty-eight states have already posted better numbers, with Alaska yet to report.

11P

NAT/NEWS

1/24/05

:48

The big political battle of 2005 may be over the minimum wage—Democrats want to raise it; Republicans do not. The current minimum wage in Michigan is \$5.15 an hour.

NOON

LOC/NEWS

1/27/05

:17

Governor Granholm unveils a business tax restructuring plan today. The plan would change the single business tax and reduce the reliance on payroll and property in a company's tax assessment.

6P

LOC/NEWS

2/9/05

1:25

Governor Granholm's State of the State address outlined an aggressive approach to creating jobs last night. She said she asked taxpayers to approve a controversial \$2 billion bond to create high tech jobs and increase education research in the State.

11P

LOC/NEWS

2/9/05

1:55

In a state with the highest unemployment rate, Governor Granholm says higher education will give workers an edge. She also laid out plans to overhaul employment training by teaching workers skills they need for jobs in high demand like health care and nursing.

WAKEUP

LOC/NEWS

3/3/05

:16

Michigan's jobless rate dropped to 7.1 percent in January which is still much higher than the national average.

WAKEUP

LOC/NEWS

3/31/05

:20

A new Federal labor report is out and Michigan had the highest unemployment rate among the 50 states last month. The February number, 7.5 percent, beat out Alaska and South Carolina. The national number is 5.4 percent.

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5. Teen Options (to keep them out of trouble)

6P LOC/NEWS 1/27/05 1:20 Police say as many as seven cars were stolen by a group of Saginaw Arthur Hill car thieves. Eight students are considered suspects right now, ranging in age from 14 to 16. One of the teens has been arrested, charges for four of the others could soon follow.

NOON LOC/NEWS 2/3/05 :29

The Zahmdan's Spacefact 2005 is officially underway in Evanteementh with activities for

The Zehnder's Snowfest 2005 is officially underway in Frankenmuth with activities for every age group. Classrooms competed in a snow carving competition. There are special events each night.

5P LOC/NEWS 2/14/05 :27

The Pom Pon Squad from Heritage High School won this year's Class 1-A State Championship. Squad members tell TV5 they practiced five hours a day. They would have had a celebration today, but school was closed because of bad weather.

NOON LOC/NEWS 2/28/05 1:00 Seventeen teenagers are being charged with minors in possession of alcohol at a party in Kawkawlin Saturday night. The homeowner, who was at home at the time of the incident

Kawkawlin Saturday night. The homeowner, who was at home at the time of the incident told deputies, but was given a ticket for allowing minors to consume alcohol at her home.

WAKEUP LOC/NEWS 3/3/05 :23

The ratings board for the video games industry is out with a new category for children approaching their teens. The "E-10-plus" category should held fill a gap between games rated "E" for everyone, and "T" for Teen, which are sometimes too violent or mature for some children in between.

5P LOC/NEWS 3/10/05 :47

If you have a problem getting your kids away from the television screen, the National Association of Sports and Physical Education recommends the following: First, enroll your child in a class; second, offer to drive your child and his or her friends to the pool or ice skating rink, or somewhere they can be active; and finally, set limits on passive activities, such as playing video games or watching television.

6. Poor Road Conditions, No Sidewalks, Lack of Lighting

11P LOC/NEWS 1/4/05 1:24

Driving was an experience for all kinds of folks today with a jack knifed semi-truck/multiple car accident on I-75 which sent several people to the hospital. The accident was caused by bad weather today.

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WAKEUP LOC/NEWS 1

1/13/05

:24

Road crews in Tuscola County continue to plow the pavement at this hour. The problem crews are dealing with is that snow is blowing back onto the roads. The wind and snow were so fierce this weekend, the Road Commission had to take its plows off the road for a short time.

NOON

LOC/NEWS

2/14/05

:23

Mid-Michigan is under a freezing rain advisory. Right now the roads are slick and icy making for a very dangerous morning commute.

NOON

LOC/NEWS

2/21/05

:43

Up to seven inches of snow fall yesterday and now Mid-Michigan is starting to dig out. This was the scene yesterday where driving was treacherous and those who stayed in were trapped. Most of the main roads are clear, but side streets are still very difficult for drivers.

530P

LOC/NEWS

2/22/05

:39

Flurries started to stick after the sun went down tonight, causing some freezing conditions on the pavement. Here is video of a car going off the road earlier tonight on I-675 in Saginaw. There were at least eight accidents near Birch Run earlier this evening due to poor road conditions caused by weather.

5P

LOC/NEWS

2/28/05

:49

Steady snowfall has been the order of the day and more is coming. Looking live at downtown Saginaw tonight where conditions are getting worse as more snow falls. So if you are heading out tonight, take it easy on the roads.

NOON

LOC/NEWS

3/1/05

1:10

The latest snowfall in Midland is really adding up. Residents are digging in, and digging out. While plow trucks are making their way through downtown, there are still difficult driving conditions. On the bright side, there are only 20 days left until Spring.

6P

LOC/NEWS

3/10/05

1:30

Reinvesting in Saginaw Township's current thriving business areas, like along State Street, is among the long list of projects talked about during the first State of the Township address. The message is to improve the area around existing businesses. It would include benches along the road, more landscaping, constructing more pedestrian pathways and improving the roads.

NOON

NAT/NEWS

3/11/05

:21

The Federal Highway spending bill, approved by the U.S. House, could give Michigan an additional \$185 million a year. In all Michigan would receive an estimated \$6.4 billion in highway funding during the next six years.

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7. Loss of Community; Lack of Volunteerism

6P LOC/NEWS 1/5/05 1:32

A West Branch man has raised more than \$350,000 towards many charities. Ed Piglowski is always looking out for other people and knows how much work it takes to make a difference. He says there's still more work to be done, because there's always someone in need.

6P LOC/NEWS 1/31/05 :19

The latest available figures show that about two-thirds of Iraqi Nationals who signed up to vote, cast ballots in the first two days. Every vote dropped into the ballot box brought a round of cheers from volunteers working at the polls here in Michigan.

NOON LOC/NEWS 1/31/05 :20

Michigan State University is one of the nation's leading schools supplying volunteers to the Peace Corp. Since the Corps' inception in 1961, the East Lansing school has produced 2,000 volunteers.

6P LOC/NEWS 2/9/05 1:45

Dr. Bud Stevens runs The Family Child and Health Clinic and also oversees the Bay Area Volunteer Clinic. He and his associates work for free at the Volunteer Clinic every Wednesday evening. People, many of whom are uninsured or underinsured, are seen free without charge, including medication, lab and x-rays.

6P LOC/NEWS 2/26/05 :25

The Western and Southern Saginaw County Relay for Life is in Mid-May. Today, TV5 was part of the Kickoff Celebration, to get volunteers excited for the big effort. Many are expected to walk the track at St. Charles High School, bringing in donations for the American Cancer Society's research and support initiatives.

6P LOC/NEWS 3/9/05 1:29

Leisa Schirmer works during the day at the Birth through Five Program, run by the Saginaw Public Schools. She also spends many hours with the Saginaw chapter of Cops 'N Kids. This non-profit organization and local police officers have given out 5,000 books to kids in need.

8. Tuition Costs (College and Vocational)

6P LOC/NEWS 2/12/05 :27

Central Michigan University's student paper, "Central Michigan Life," reports cuts to funding and scholarships would mean a loss of nearly \$1 ½ million a year to the university.

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NOON LOC/NEWS 2/18/05 :21

A State Senate Panel has rejected Governor Granholm's plan for resolving a \$376 million budget. Senate Republicans say the legislation would break their promise to maintain state funding for universities and community colleges.

530P LOC/NEWS 2/28/05 :17

Nearly 300,000 University of Michigan undergraduates could see their tuition bills drop under a new grant program. It's called "M-Pack" and would help in-state undergraduates by giving them between \$500 and \$1,500 a year.

9. Health Insurance Costs

6:30P LOC/NEWS 1/9/05 :30

Districts are struggling with escalating health care costs, retirees' increased life expectancy and tight budgets. Now, six retirees have sued the State Retirement Plan, claiming that increases in their health insurance deductibles and co-pays are unfair and unconstitutional.

530P LOC/NEWS 1/12/05 :28

Ten pharmaceutical companies have announced they're giving discounts on their products. The "Together R-X Access" is available to people younger than 65, with moderate income and without insurance.

11P LOC/NEWS 1/26/05 :28

Kalamazoo Valley has implemented the "No Smokers Hired" policy in an effort to keep health care costs under control. This happened after research shows smokers incur higher health care costs. Also, part-time workers who smoke will be ineligible for full time positions.

530P NAT/NEWS 2/17/05 1:30

If you bought a low-cost high-deductible health insurance plan and contributed to a new health savings account in 2004, it is one of the new tax deductions allowed on your 2004 tax return.

NOON LOC/NEWS 3/2/05 :24

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Company of Michigan plans to increase its insurance premiums for group medical coverage. About 60,000 group members who are switching to individual policies will see a 9 percent premium increase.

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530P NAT/NEWS 3/18/05 1:25

A Harvard University study reports one of the causes of bankruptcy is inadequate health insurance. Because many working Americans incomes did not keep pace with rising costs of medical care and insurance, expect to see more advertising from lawyers advising people in financial difficulty to consider bankruptcy now before a law which eliminates that option passes.

6PM NAT/NEWS 3/31/05 :27

General Motors switched from three benefit companies to one, but the information for about 22,000 people wasn't transferred or was done so incorrectly. Many have been left with incorrect payments, lost seniority or no prescription coverage. GM says its working with the UAW to restore all of the information.

10. Crime

5P LOC/NEWS 1/6/05 :30

Police are asking for your help in finding the man who robbed a Bangor Township gas station at gunpoint. He pulled out a gun and demanded money and cigarettes. Description was given.

530P LOC/NEWS 1/11/05 :58

Neighbors say two men drove up to this house, got out of the car and fired dozens of shots. One of the shots hit a 14-year-old boy. Neighbors say the shooting could have been worse, and the surrounding streets are big gang areas.

11P LOC/NEWS 1/20/05 :29

A newborn suffered a broken pelvis, broken arm and a fractured rib, sometime between Christmas Day and New Year's Eve, when his family brought him to a hospital. Detectives say the multiple wounds could only mean excessive force. State troopers are treating the case as a criminal investigation.

530P LOC/NEWS 2/1/05 1:30

New digital surveillance video will help track down the men who robbed Frank's Great Outdoors last December. More and more businesses are replacing video records with digital video records where quality is superior and the picture more accurate.

6P LOC/NEWS 2/5/05 1:22

A woman was shot and killed as she walked down her front steps around 9 p.m. last night. The woman's family say she was a loving mother. . .a person who would help anyone at any time. Police are not saying anything about any possible gang connections in this most recent murder.

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6P LOC/NEWS 3/4/05 1:00

During a drug investigation, police discover a mid-Michigan crime ring. Undercover officers with "Bayanet" bought drugs and a stolen handgun this week. The gun was one of several stolen from the "Joe Gun" shop in Sanford in December, 2004. A search warrant for an Ingersol Township hope turned up the rest of the guns and a small amount of drugs.

5P LOC/NEWS 3/7/05 :26

Genesee County authorities say a woman attacked a trustee of the Clio Eagles Club, hitting him in the head several times with a hammer, before stealing \$1,300 from the organization. The victim went to a nearby gas station and called for help. The money was recovered and both suspects will be arraigned.

WAKEUP LOC/NEWS 3/16/05 :18

A woman says somebody stole her laptop computer while she was walking along Franklin Street near the Howard Johnson Hotel. After a foot chase, police caught the man along East Genesee Street and recovered the stolen computer.